

FY2007

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP TRAINING SITE
Army Defense Environmental Restoration Program
Installation Action Plan

Printed 14 January 2008

FTIG-003-R-01 RICOCHET AREA

STATUS

Regulatory Driver: CERCLA
MRSP Score: Evaluation pending
Contaminants of Concern: Metals, Munitions and explosives of concern
Media of Concern: Groundwater, Soil

Phases	Start	End
PA.....	200209	200310
SI.....	200606	200804
RI/FS.....	201410	201509
RD.....	201510	201609
RA(C).....	201610	201709
LTM.....	201710	204709
RIP Date:	N/A	
RC Date:	201709	

SITE DESCRIPTION

The ricochet area is just north of the installation between Second Mountain and Peters Mountain. The undeveloped area is state game lands and is frequently used by recreational hunters. The area is documented in the safety range regulation for FIG (Army Regulation 385-1, figure 7-1) dated October 1986. The airspace R5802A was used to draw the boundaries of the artillery ricochet area. The safety range regulation describes the area as "a fall area for spent ordnance which ricochet north of Second Mountain." The 756th Ordnance Company Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) reported that they typically respond to numerous calls every hunting season involving artillery rounds.

The Artillery Ricochet Area is a 9,122-acre area located just north of the installation between Second Mountain and Peters Mountain. The undeveloped area is State Game Lands and is frequently used by recreational hunters. The area is documented in the Safety Range Regulation for Fort Indiantown Gap (Army Regulation 385-1, Figure 7-1) as Restricted Airspace R5802A (also known as Restricted Area R5802A). The Safety Range Regulation describes the area as "a fall area for spent ordnance which ricochet north of Second Mountain." Based on this description, the Artillery Ricochet Area was defined by using the boundaries established in the Safety Range Regulation for Restricted Area R5802A. The 756th Ordnance Company (EOD) reported that they typically respond to numerous calls every hunting season involving artillery rounds. According to EOD, most of the rounds discovered in the area are old. No specific EOD records of White Phosphorus (WP) were found; however, both WP and illumination projectiles are authorized in the 1986 safety range regulation.

The area is considered a transferred range under the inventory because the Army does not own or control the property. The estimated active years for the range are from 1940 to 1998. The 1982 Installation Assessment done through the US Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency states that FIG "holds a Waiver of Safety from the Pennsylvania Game Commission for weapons range safety fans which extend beyond the installation boundaries onto State Game Lands No. 211 in Dauphin and Lebanon Counties." It states that FIG "also reportedly holds a special license from the Pennsylvania Game Commission for approximately 107 hectares [264 acres] north of the Impact Area as a safety measure in case projectiles fired in the impact area go beyond the installation boundary." No ordnance was intentionally fired into the Artillery Ricochet Area. The following types of ordnance may be found in the area: 60-mm, 81-mm, and 4.2-inch mortars; and 105-mm, 155-mm and 8-inch projectiles. The Artillery Ricochet Area overlaps the Cold Spring Range Fan area included in the inventory; therefore, the area was adjusted accordingly so the overlap area was not double counted. PAARNG is anticipating acquisition of this land which, at this point, will change from non-operational range to an operational range. There may be less acreage designated as operational range, therefore, all of the acreage will not be reclassified. This non-operational acreage will remain in the MMRP.

CLEANUP/EXIT STRATEGY

Additional investigation is planned. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) clearance is expected.

FTIG-004-R-01 COLD SPRING RANGE FAN

STATUS

Regulatory Driver: CERCLA
MRSP Score: Evaluation pending
Contaminants of Concern: Metals, Munitions and explosives of concern
Media of Concern: Groundwater, Soil

Phases	Start	End
PA.....	200209	200310
SI.....	200606	200804
RIP Date:	N/A	
RC Date:	200804	

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Cold Spring range fan area is just north of the installation from the Cold Spring Area extending south towards the installation. A 1982 Installation Assessment Report listed that "at one time, the Cold Spring Area served as an artillery firing point." For the inventory, the boundaries of the Cold Spring range fan area were drawn by extending boundary lines from the firing point to the northwest corner and to the northeast corner of the installation. The exact targets and impact area for the Cold Spring Area are unknown. The 756th EOD reported that they respond to numerous calls every hunting season involving artillery rounds that appear to have been there for many years.

The current Historical Records Review is proposing that this site be combined with the other MMRP site, FTIG-003-R-01. It is expected that this site will be combined with the Ricochet Area and therefore will be made RC after the SI is complete.

The Cold Spring Range Fan area is a 1,231-acre area located just north of the installation from the Cold Spring Area, extending south towards the installation. The undeveloped area is State Game Lands and is frequently used by recreational hunters. A 1982 Installation Assessment report indicated, "at one time, the Cold Spring area served as an artillery firing point." For the purpose of the inventory, the boundaries of the Cold Spring Range Fan area were drawn by extending a line from the firing point to the northwest corner of the installation and another line from the firing point to the northeast corner of the installation. The exact targets and impact area for the munitions fired from the Cold Spring Area are unknown. The estimated active years for the range are from 1940 to 1970. Artillery projectiles and mortars are the munitions types associated with the area. The following types of ordnance may be found in the area: 60-mm, 81-mm, and 4.2-inch mortars; and 105-mm, 155-mm and 8-inch projectiles. The Cold Spring Range Fan overlaps the Artillery Ricochet Area included in the inventory; therefore, the area was adjusted accordingly so the overlap area was not double counted. The Cold Spring Range Fan also overlaps the current operational range area within the installation boundary.

The 756th Ordnance Company reported that they respond to numerous calls every hunting season involving artillery rounds. According to EOD, most of the rounds discovered in the area appear to have been there for many years. No specific evidence was found regarding WP or illumination rounds from the range; however, these rounds have been used at other parts of the installation and it is assumed they were used at the Cold Spring Range Fan Area as well. The area is considered a transferred range because the Army does not own or control the property. PAARNG is anticipating acquisition of this land which, at this point, will change from non-operational range to an operational range. There may be less acreage designated as operational range, therefore, all of the acreage will not be reclassified. This non-operational acreage will remain in the MMRP.

CLEANUP/EXIT STRATEGY

Additional investigation is planned.

It is expected that this site will be combined with the Ricochet Area (FTIG-003-R-01) and, therefore, will be made RC after the SI is complete.

FY2008

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP TRAINING SITE
Army Defense Environmental Restoration Program
Installation Action Plan

Printed 27 October 2008

Site ID: FTIG-003-R-01
Site Name: RICOCHET AREA

STATUS

Regulatory Driver: CERCLA

MRSP Score: Evaluation pending

Contaminants of Concern: Metals, Munitions and explosives of concern

Media of Concern: Groundwater, Soil

Phases	Start	End
PA.....	200209.....	200310
SI.....	200606.....	200809
RI/FS.....	200910.....	201009
RD.....	201010.....	201105
RA(C).....	201106.....	201505
LTM.....	202010.....	205009

RIP Date: N/A

RC Date: 201509

SITE DESCRIPTION

The ricochet area is just north of the installation between Second Mountain and Peters Mountain. The undeveloped area is state game lands and is frequently used by recreational hunters. The area is documented in the safety range regulation for FIG (Army Regulation 385-1, figure 7-1) dated October 1986. The airspace R5802A was used to draw the boundaries of the artillery ricochet area. The safety range regulation describes the area as "a fall area for spent ordnance which ricochet north of Second Mountain." The 756th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)) reported that every hunting season they typically respond to numerous calls involving artillery rounds. The site includes the Former Cold Spring Range Fan munitions response site (MRS).

The area is considered a transferred range under the inventory because the Army does not own or control the property. The estimated active years for the range are from 1940 to 1998. The 1982 Installation Assessment done through the US Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency states that FIG "holds a Waiver of Safety from the Pennsylvania Game Commission for weapons range safety fans which extend beyond the installation boundaries onto State Game Lands No. 211 in Dauphin and Lebanon Counties." It states that FIG "also reportedly holds a special license from the Pennsylvania Game Commission for approximately 107 hectares [264 acres] north of the Impact Area as a safety measure in case projectiles fired in the impact area go beyond the installation boundary." No ordnance was intentionally fired into the Artillery Ricochet Area. The following types of ordnance may be found in the area:

- 60mm, 81mm
- 4.2-inch mortars; and
- 105mm, 155mm and 8-inch projectiles.

The Artillery Ricochet Area overlaps the Cold Spring Range Fan area included in the inventory; therefore, the area was adjusted so the overlap area was not double-counted.

The area is considered a transferred range under the Phase III CTT inventory because the Army does not own or control the property. The estimated active years for the range are from 1940 to 1998. The 1982 installation assessment done through the US Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency states that FIG "holds a Waiver of Safety from the Pennsylvania Game Commission for weapons range safety fans which extend beyond the installation boundaries onto State Game Lands No. 211 in Dauphin and Lebanon Counties." It states that FIG "also reportedly holds a special license from the Pennsylvania Game Commission for approximately 107 hectares [264 acres] north of the Impact Area as a safety measure in case projectiles fired in the impact area go beyond the installation boundary." No ordnance was intentionally fired into the Artillery Ricochet Area. The following types of ordnance may be found in the area: 60-mm, 81-mm, and 4.2-inch mortars; and 105-mm, 155-mm and 8-inch projectiles. The Artillery Ricochet Area overlaps the Cold Spring Range Fan area included in the inventory; therefore, the area was adjusted accordingly so the overlap area was not double counted.

Site ID: FTIG-003-R-01
Site Name: RICOCHET AREA

CLEANUP/EXIT STRATEGY

Additional investigation for munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) and munitions constituents (MC) is planned. No MC removal action is anticipated. MEC removal action and monitoring are planned.

The Pennsylvania National Guard decided to expand Fort Indiantown Gap's north boundary into Stony Creek Valley. The Guard originally sought 8,000 acres in the valley. Opposition to the theft of the protected public land forced the Guard to reduce the amount to 2,100 acres, or clearly a foot-in-the-door action.

The Guard stated that the land could be condemned because of unexploded ordnance. At the time, a Fort Indiantown Gap official declared, "Eminent domain has never been on the drawing board and is not the spirit of the Pennsylvania National Guard. It's no build and go somewhere else, or acquire the land."

Please note the wording of the 2007 Installation Action Plan: "The Artillery Ricochet Area is a 9,122-acre area located just north of the installation between Second Mountain and Peters Mountain. The undeveloped area is State Game Lands and is frequently used by recreational hunters ... The area is considered a transferred range under the inventory because the Army does not own or control the property ... PAARNG is anticipating acquisition of this land which, at this point, will change from non-operational range to an operational range."

The wording of the 2008 Installation Action Plan is basically the same as the year before, except this sentence is missing. "PAARNG is anticipating acquisition of this land which, at this point, will change from non-operational range to an operational range." Gap officials finally realized there was opposition to their plans.

Fort Indiantown Gap is a World War II era installation. The "training corridor" is too small for learning and conducting mortar, tank and field artillery live fire exercises. According to the data, the Department of Defense manages 8.8 million acres of United States land ¹ for military training and testing. The unique wilderness of Stony Creek Valley should be preserved for future generations.

¹ Federal Land Ownership: Overview and Data, February 21, 2020

BTW, many in opposition to the Guard theft of the public land are military veterans.